



15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026 - 10:00 am

Pastor Peter Johnson

Lakeside Community Lutheran Church

Webster, WI

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*(*Denotes stand as you are able)*

PRELUDE

***WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: Sisters and Brothers,

Today in the Gospel of Matthew, we will hear Jesus describe how to navigate conflict within the church. A unique perspective for us to keep in mind is that the church wasn't born yet. So then what is the church that Jesus is referring to? Or possibly more disturbing, what if Jesus' primary concern wasn't conflict resolution within the church? What else could Jesus possibly be more concerned about?

Good questions! In hopeful assurance, let's wrestle with these questions together. After all, where two or three are gathered, there Christ is in our midst.

C: Jesus, sometimes your teaching leaves us with more questions than it does answers. We are a people that seek answers, need hope, and are turning to you for grace and guidance in the challenges and conflicts in our life, families, and sometimes even your church. Please send your Holy Spirit to give us the courage to be guided by your teaching, empowered by your grace, and sent in your loving mercy to show merciful love.

Come Holy Spirit, come.

Amen.

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



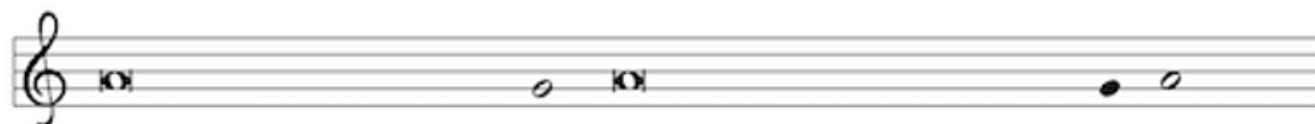
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



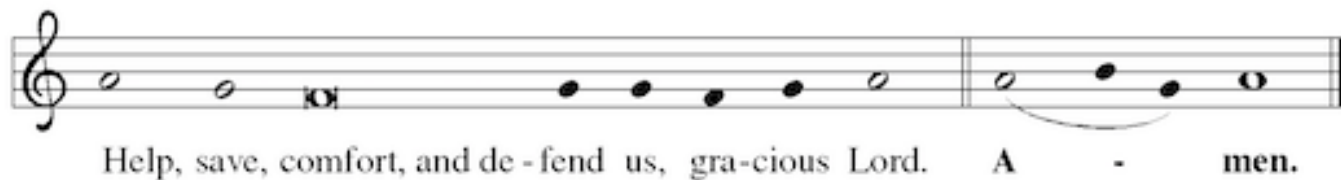
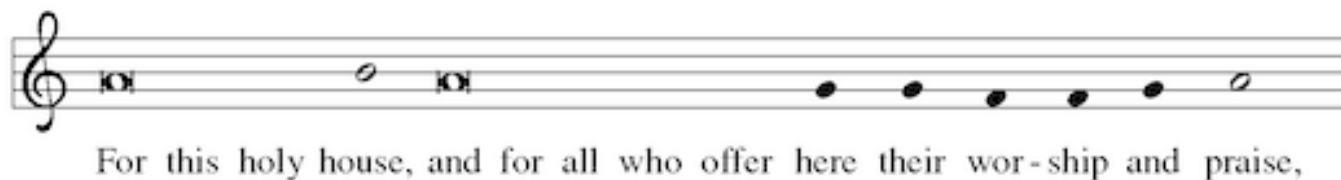
Lord, have mer - cy.



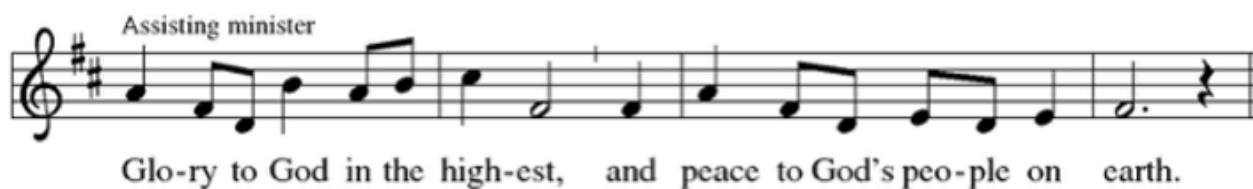
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



All
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

We Shall Rise

Stan Pethel

WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.

⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40

³³ Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to your decrees**

and not to unjust gain.

³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸ **Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***PLEASE RISE FOR THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL**

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be

confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Peter Johnson

SERMON HYMN

In My Life Lord, Be Glorified

ELW 744

1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

2 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.

3 In our hearts, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in our hearts, Lord, be glorified today.

4 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PUBLIC PRAYERS: *Pastor Peter will walk up and down the center aisle to receive prayer requests from the congregation.*

Pray for Me

Ty Herndon

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share Christ's peace with each other

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THANKSGIVING FOR OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING



Thank you for supporting the mission and ministries of the church! Sharing God's gifts in offering allows us to more fully live into our mission of

Loving Christ through Loving Community

*Please rise as we sing "Asante sana Yesu/I Am Thanking Jesus" and return the gifts of God's abundance to the table of grace.

Asante sana Yesu, Asante sana Yesu,

Asante sana Yesu, Moyoni

Asante sana Yesu, Asante sana Yesu,

Asante sana Yesu, Moyoni (Repeat)

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The table is set. The meal is prepared. Come. All are welcome to the feast.

COMMUNION Stay With Me, Lord Ferdinand Bautista

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord of our identity and life,

We gathered here today, hoping against hope that we'd encounter you. We prayed that you'd enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. We prayed that you'd remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ.

In our yearning for your love and longing for your grace, we prayed that you'd forgive our trespasses as we try to forgive those who trespass against us.

Holding each other close, our church prayed for each other. For ones not here. For all the hard and uncertain things in life. For all things glorious and beautifully messy. Most of all, Lord, we prayed for the kingdom now and forever.

Welcomed and seated at your table of grace, we ate in your mercy, we drank in your love, and were filled by your forgiveness. We did all this in remembrance of you.

Lord, you heard our prayers! In our beautiful messiness, you saw our need for you and you came to us! You have freed us to love not because of who we are, but because of whose we are. And whose we are is yours!

Thank you Father for your faithfulness in your promise of our precious Jesus fully present in the Eucharist by the power of your Holy Spirit.

We give all glory and praise to you O' redeeming God!

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN Leaning On the Everlasting Arms

ELW 774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;

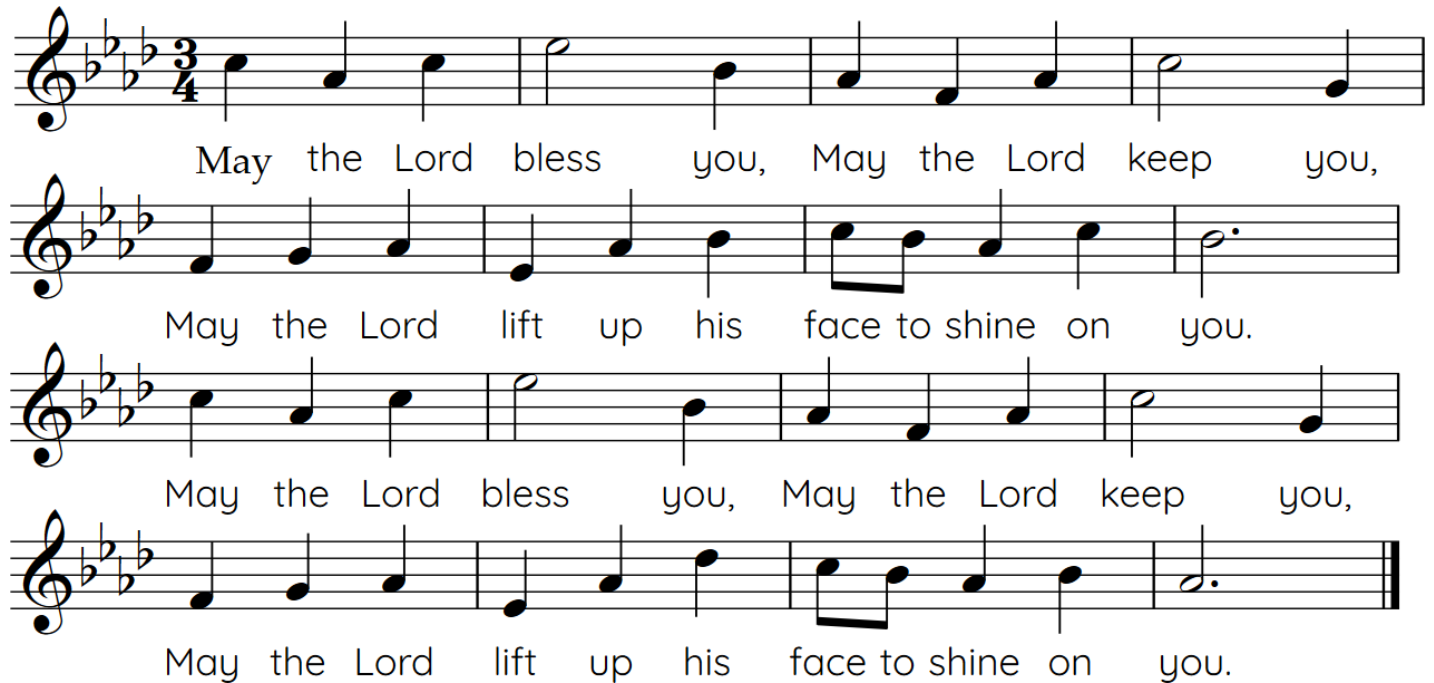


lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*BLESSING

Encouraged by the promise of God's love and grace, and grounded in our identity as one body in Jesus Christ, may we together be empowered to tell the story of God's unending love for all people and all creation, through the power of the Holy Spirit that dwells within you, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*BENEDICTION SONG



May the Lord bless you, May the Lord keep you,
May the Lord lift up his face to shine on you.
May the Lord bless you, May the Lord keep you,
May the Lord lift up his face to shine on you.

*DISMISSAL

You are beautifully made, uniquely gifted, and loved beyond measure.
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Let us join together in a prayer of thanksgiving for those serving in worship today: Pastor Peter Johnson; The Lakeside Choir, led by Dave Speidel; cantor Vern Umholtz; AV technician Tim Smith; video creator Marshall Hoff; worship presenter Kristy DuBois; altar guild members Sue Oslund and Jill Schroeder; counters Deb & Roger Jackson; shepherding conveners Bob & Marcia Proehl; and shepherds Sandie & Joe Fisher, Pat Sulander, Jill Schroeder, Dave & Linda Speidel, and Deb Studley.

The flowers on the altar are from Jolyne & Charley Peterson in celebration of their 57th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

September's Mission of the Month will help cover the cost of shipping our quilts to World Relief. In light of the tragic weather events around the world, many neighbors are in great need of the comfort these bundles of love provide. Quilts and dress kits cost \$4 each to ship. This year, we have already exceeded our goal of 250 quilts, with 300 completed and one month left to make more! To support this effort, we need approximately \$1,400 for World Relief shipping costs. Thanks to your generosity each year, we have been able to cover these expenses—something not all churches can do. Please use the Mission of the Month envelopes or write “quilt shipping” on your check. Thank you for your continued support!

Campfire Fest: A concert & fundraiser at **Luther Park** on Saturday, September 26th. Pull up a seat by the fire, connect, and celebrate the impact of Luther Park through a day of community, music, storytelling, and generosity. Camp activities & silent auction start at 11 am. Concert with Rachel Kurtz is from 1-4pm. Tickets for the day are \$25 which includes concert ticket, wood-fired pizza lunch, and a free drink. Beer, wine and other non-alcoholic drinks available for purchase throughout the day. Visit our website for more information: www.lutherparkdanbury.com

LCLC's parking lot will be resurfaced this week! Therefore, all activities in the church building will be rescheduled. The choir will rehearse at the home of Dave & Linda Speidel on Thursday at 4 pm. For details, contact Dave at (612) 812-9931.

The Silent Auction for the quilt made by LCLC's mission quilters ends today! The queen size quilt is on display in the fellowship hall. Proceeds will help cover the cost of shipping quilts to World Relief.

August Mission of the Month Update: Water for Tanzania

*****Mission of the Month GOAL is MET and SURPASSED!*****

Congratulations LCLC!



Through your faithful stewardship of God's blessings—financial resources, generosity, a call to mission, and deep love for our sisters and brothers in Tanzania—we can help provide clean, safe water to several thousand beloved children of God.

Great job, Church! Together we raised \$18,638!

Lakeside is seeking a mission-oriented individual to serve as Communications & Office Coordinator to manage office operations, create communications, and support community engagement. This salaried role includes both on-site and remote work. Qualified candidates should have a strong personal commitment to LCLC's mission and values, work well independently, communicate effectively, be highly organized, and maintain strict confidentiality with sensitive pastoral and member information. Proficiency with Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, and Adobe InDesign or other publishing software—or a willingness to learn—is essential. Please contact Julie Swan or email aandhlclc@gmail.com if you or someone you know would like more information on this opportunity to serve.



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